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NEWS

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Midshipman Brenna Sibhoan Kelly awarded Captain Winifred Q. Collins Scholarship

PENSACOLA, Fla.—Midshipman Brenna Sibhoan Kelly, of the Virginia Military Institute NROTC Unit, was one of five Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) midshipmen who were recently named 1999 recipients of the Captain Winifred Q. Collins Award. Each midshipman will receive a \$1000 scholarship.

The annual “Winifred Q. Collins Award” is presented to third year female midshipmen who will complete their junior year in the May/June time frame. Nominees were selected on the basis of academics, leadership, and financial need. An awards board convened by the Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET), the command that oversees the 57 NROTC Units nationwide, selected the winners.

Collins personally notifies winning midshipmen of their selection. In a letter to each of the scholarship recipients, Collins wrote: “This designates you as one of the finest midshipmen in the NROTC program.”

Capt. Collins, U.S. Navy retired, was commissioned in 1942 in the first group of women officers to enter the U.S. Naval Reserve. In 1948, she was selected as one of 500 women officers to be commissioned in the regular Navy. In August 1957, she became the Assistant Chief of Navy Personnel for Women, the senior woman officer in the Navy at the time, and the only woman line officer serving in the rank of Captain. Collins retired in August 1962 after 20 years of active Navy service.

(more)

Collins Award 2/2/2

Midshipman Brenna Sibhoan Kelly is a Biology major at Mary Baldwin College, with a cumulative GPA of 2.933. She is ranked in the top half of both her training unit, and her academic class. She is an active member of the Trident Society, the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) Color Guard, and the Officer's Christian Fellowship. Midshipman Kelly also works as a Computer Science Teaching Assistant.

For further information, contact the Virginia Military Institute NROTC Unit at (540) 464-7275.